

[22 July, 2002]

RAJYA SABHA

reliable and full time navigation together with fixed and regular cargo service schedule the justification of these projects not to be determine by the rate of return durign the Tenth Plan but by the need for creating necessary infrastructure as developmental activity.

- States to earmark a fixed percentage of their budget for road and tourism sectors for accelerated IWT development.
- States to empower Panchayats to undertake various supporting activities such as desilting construction of approach roads, jetties, watch and ward activities for development and maintenance of the waterways for generation of economic activities and employment.
- The States should also dovetail approved developmental programmes to take care of some of the local requirement of IWT.
- Development of tourism related activities including water crises around and between places of heritage, historical cultural and religious importance.

Releases of Shipment for Gujarat Victims

552. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Shipment of \$ 66.5 lakh worth of aid for riot victims of Gujarat sent by Non-Resident Indians of Canada is rotting at the Kandla Port since 25th May, 2002;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government to release the shipment for Gujarat victims?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI SU.THIRUNAVUKKARASAR): (a) No shipment for aid for Gujarat riot victims has arrived at Kandla Port.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.